

XXXI. *Note on the Development of the Ovulum of Osyris, in correction of the Statement made at Page 178 of the present Volume.* By WILLIAM GRIFFITH, Esq., F.L.S. &c. &c.

Read November 19th, 1844.

HAVING had opportunities, after my revised examination of *Santalum album*, of examining a Malacca species of *Osyris* (belonging to a section characterized by a quinary number of parts of the flower, a less tendency to separation of the sexes, and habit), I find full grounds for believing that the mode of development of the ovulum of *Osyris Nepalensis* is altogether like that of *Santalum album*; the only difference being the unimportant one of the short anterior prolongation of the embryo-sac outside the nucleus. The minuteness of the ovulum, and the rapidity with which the anterior exerted part above the septum becomes filled with albuminous tissue, during which the proper membrane of this part of the sac becomes incorporated with the albuminous tissue, must be my apologies for this additional and very important error.

I may take this opportunity of stating that this Malacca *Osyris*, deducting the great minuteness of the ovulum, has given me as good evidence as *Santalum* in my opinion has, of the non-existence of any cell or body of or in the embryo-sac, from which the embryo is derived *independent of the pollen tube*. The vesicle from which the embryo is to be derived does not appear to exist before the application of the pollen tubes to the sac; it being, in fact, so far as my means of observation enable me to go, the anterior extremity of the pollen tube itself.

Botanic Gardens, Calcutta, November 12, 1843.